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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In RE:

APPLICANT(S): JACK V. SMITH

GROUP ART UNIT: 1648

S.N.: 09/283,318

EXAMINER: FOLEY, S.

FILING DATE: 3/31/99

DATE OF THIS RESPONSE: 11/14/00

FOR: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING AND DETECTING AND  
NORMALIZING HIV FOR RAPID ANALYSIS

**Amendment A**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Madam:

In response to the Office Action dated 08/14/00, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's rejection to claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9, and 10 be reversed. With the helpful suggestions of the Examiner these claims are now in condition for allowance with the following appropriate amendments to the above application.

**Election/Restriction:**

The applicant confirms that a provisional election was made without traverse to prosecute the invention of species II, claims 6, 7, 9, and 10.

**Claims:**

1. A method for determining the presence of HIV antibodies (anti-HIV) on an unknown test sample, said test method being composed of a buffer, antibody or antigen or indicator employing a dry chemistry test strip or a dry chemistry lateral flow device that produces a detectable response or a change in the absorbance or intensity of a color or line in the UV or visible spectrum in the presence or absence of anti-HIV.